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Message Text

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15
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E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: HIGHLIGHTS

REF : PAO LETTER NO.12

1. ATMOSPHERICS:

--CURRENT TAIPEI MEDIA CONSENSUS IS THAT PRESIDENT FORD'S PEKING VISIT STILL ON BUT NO MAJOR "BREAKTHROUGHS" EXPECTED INJURIOUS TO ROC. AMONG LATEST REPORTED INDICATORS: (1) WIRESERVICE ACCOUNTS SECRETARY KISSINGER'S NOVEMBER 10 NEWS CONFERENCE COMMENT THAT TRIP "IS ON SCHEDULE" PROMINENTLY CARRIED BY ALL MAJOR PAPERS INCLUDING LEADING UNITED DAILY NEWS (380,000), INFLUENTIAL CHINA TIMES (350,000) AND KMT'S OFFICIAL CENTRAL DAILY NEWS (270,000). PRESS SECRETARY NESSEN'S AND OTHER WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS ALSO QUOTED SAYING TRIP ANNOUNCEMENT EXPECTED SHORTLY. (2) CENTRAL DAILY NEWS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT BRICE WANG QUOTED WASHINGTON SOURCES SAYING TRIP WILL BE MAINLY SOCIAL CALL WITH NO SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS REALIZED, LET ALONE "BREAKTHROUGH" IN U.S.-PRC RELATIONS. (3) UNITED DAILY NEWS EDITORIAL SAW MINIMAL POSSIBILITY PEKING WITHDRAWING
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PROMISE OF FORD-MAO MEETING BUT PAPER EXPECTED NO CONCRETE

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RESULTS. PAPER'S WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT COMET SHIH QUOTED KISSINGER'S NOVEMBER 10 REPLY THAT SIMULTANEOUS ROC AND PRC DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS "IMPOSSIBLE." (4) CHINA TIMES WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT HSU PAI-HSIUNG SAW GREAT SIGNIFICANCE ABSENCE CHIANG CHING, WANG HUNG-WEN AND CHANG CHUN-CHIAO DURING LATEST KISSINGER VISIT AND EXPECTED NO BREAKTHROUGH IN U.S.-PRC RELATIONS IN COMING YEAR OR PRIOR DEATHS MAO AND CHOU EN-LAI. PAPER'S WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT JACK CHOW SAID: "SOVIET ISSUE" MORE PRESSING THAN "TAIWAN ISSUE" IN CURRENT U.S.-PRC NORMALIZATION EFFORTS; BOTH U.S. AND PRC HAVE REAPPRAISED EACH OTHER AND REACHED NEW UNDERSTANDING, AND TAIWAN ISSUE WILL REMAIN UNSETTLED FOR YEARS TO COME. SINCE THERE NO BASIC CHANGES IN U.S.-PRC RELATIONS, FORD'S TRIP WILL BE MOSTLY CEREMONIAL.

--MOST PAPERS CARRIED A CNA-WASHINGTON REPORT QUOTING CONGRESSMAN ROBERT L. SIKES APPEALING TO PRESIDENT FORD NOT TO TAKE ANY MEASURES INJURIOUS TO ROC. VISITING CONGRESSMAN JAMES C. CLEVELAND PROMINENTLY REPORTED TELLING PRE-DEPARTURE NEWS CONFERENCE FORD'S VISIT WILL NOT RESULT IN HARM TO ROC.

--DR. PAUL SIH, VICE CHANCELLOR OF ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY IN NEW YORK, REPORTEDLY TOLD LEGISLATIVE YUAN FORD'S VISIT WILL HAVE NO SUBSTANTIAL EFFECT ON U.S.-ROC RELATIONS AND THAT AMERICAN CHINA WATCHERS HAVE SHIFTED ATTENTION TO MAINLAND PERSONALITY STUDIES RATHER THAN ANALYSIS OF POPULATION, RESOURCES AND MILITARY MATTERS.

2. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

--AMBASSADOR UNGER FORMALLY OPENED TWO-WEEK AMERICAN PRODUCTS EXHIBITION NOVEMBER 8 AT NEW KAOHSIUNG PRESIDENT DEPARTMENT STORE HIGHLIGHTING RANGE U.S. GOODS NOW AVAILABLE FIRST TIME SOUTHERN TAIWAN AND INCLUDING USIS-STAGED BOOK-VTR-POSTER EXHIBIT SUPPORTING TOURISM, ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE DOING BUSINESS WITH U.S. OPENING CEREMONY ATTENDED BY KAOHSIUNG MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL SPEAKER AND OTHER GOVERNMENT/POLITICAL/BUSINESS DIGNITARIES. TELEVISION AND PRESS GAVE GOOD COVERAGE. PRODUCT PROMOTION
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STAGED WITH $10,000 U.S. COMMERCE DEPARTMENT GRANT. POST-FUNDED USIS EXHIBIT MATERIALS INCLUDED POSTERS FROM ICS, LIBRARY AND TRANSLATED BOOKS, MANDARIN VTR SOUND TRACK IMV'S ACQUISITION "LEISURE LAND USA."

--NOVEMBER 6-8 TAIPEI VISIT OF CONGRESSMAN AND MRS. JAMES CLEVELAND PROVIDED POST UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM WITH HARD-TO-GET AUDIENCE MEMBERS, WHILE POST PROGRAMS GAVE

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CLEVELANDS OPPORTUNITY EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH WIDE VARIETY OF TAIWAN SOCIETY. ON NOVEMBER 7, MOST OF CLEVELANDS' DAY OCCUPIED WITH OFFICIAL CALLS IN AMBASSADOR, LEGISLATIVE YUAN, PRESIDENT, FOREIGN MINISTER AND PALACE MUSEUM VISIT, BUT IN EVENING CPAO HOSTED DINNER FOR 55 WITH CONGRESSMAN AS FEATURED SPEAKER. GUESTS INCLUDED TOP EXECUTIVES FROM MOST OF TAIPEI MEDIA, VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SECRETARY GENERAL OF EXECUTIVE YUAN, TWO COLLEGE PRESIDENTS AND TWO COLLEGE DEANS. CONGRESSMAN MADE BRIEF REMARKS ABOUT UPCOMING PRIMARY ELECTIONS AND U.S. DOMESTIC POLITICAL SCENE AND ANSWERED QUESTIONS. ON MORNING OF NOVEMBER 8, CONGRESSMAN MET WITH GROUP OF 10 YOUNG, ARTICULATE LAWYERS WITH POLITICAL INTERESTS FOR WIDE RANGING EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON U.S. POLITICAL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS AND COMPARISON OF U.S.-ROC CONSTITUTIONAL LAW. AT SAME TIME, MRS. CLEVELAND ADDRESSED GROUP OF WOMEN LEADERS WITH HEAVY MEDIA REPRESENTATION ON RECENT CHANGES IN U.S. SOCIETY AT USIS LINCOLN CENTER. HER ARTICULATE PRESENTATION VERY WELL RECEIVED. AT ONE HOUR PRIOR MID-DAY NOVEMBER 8 DEPARTURE, CONGRESSMAN
HELD AIRPORT PRESS
CONFERENCE WELL ATTENDED BY TAIPEI DIPLOMATIC REPORTERS AND ANSWERED QUESTIONS ABOUT U.S.-PRC RELATIONS AND IMPACT ON ROC SECURITY, U.S. DOMESTIC POLITICAL SCENE AND FORD CABINET CHANGES (DETAILS BY FM).

--ECONOMIC SECTION OFFICER DWIGHT CRAMER PRESENTED DOROTHY CROOK VTR INTERVIEW HERB STEIN ON STATE U.S. ECONOMY BEFORE ELITE BREAKFAST AUDIENCE 20 PERSONS INCLUDING MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, U. S. AMBASSADOR, OTHER HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS. DISCUSSION FOLLOWED CENTERED ON ROLE HOUSING START IN OVERALL RECOVERY.

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--TSAI HSUNG-HSIUNG, LEGAL RESEARCHER, TAIWAN URBAN HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, TOLD CAO VOA FORUM SERIES BOOK ENTITLED, "URBAN AMERICA," SO WELL PRESENTED THAT READING BOOK GAVE HIM MUCH BETTER OVERWIEW OF TOPIC THAN PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS DURING HIS YEAR AT M.I.T. CONVERSATION FOLLOWED BY ONE DAY REVELATION BY A PROFESSOR AT TAIPEI'S SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY THAT LAST YEAR A GOOD PART OF GRADUATE LAW SCHOOL'S ORAL ENTRANCE EXAM BASED ON DISCUSSION OF VOA FORUM'S "TALKS ON AMERICAN LAW" WHICH STUDENTS WERE INSTRUCTED READ BEFOREHAND.

--MID-LEVEL OFFICIAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA RECENTLY COMPLIMENTED THE CAO ON THE USIS LIBRARY'S REFERENCE SERVICE. HE CALLED THE SERVICE "SUPER" AND SINGLED OUT TWO STAFFERS, ALICE HSU AND STELLA HSUEH-HUANG, FOR PRAISE.

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"AFTER JUST ONE PHONE CALL, THESE GIRLS GIVE ME ALL THE INFORMATION I WANT, AND IN WRITING TOO. IT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME," HE SAID.
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